

Message Text

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10

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 AID-05 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03

TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

/054 W

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R 051011Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 855

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, TH

SUBJECT: THE BUDGET: WAITING FOR BUNCHU

1. THE RTG BUDGET REVIEW COMMITTEE HAS COMPLETED ITS INITIAL REVIEW OF THE 1976 RTG BUDGET. THE APPROACH HAS BEEN TO GIVE QUICK APPROVAL TO THOSE AREAS OF THE BUDGET ON WHICH THERE IS AGREEMENT AND TO DEFER FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION THE MORE CONTROVERSIAL PARTS. AMONG THE DEFERRED ITEMS ARE SUBSIDIES FOR FREE BUS TRANSPORTATION FOR THE POOR IN BANGKOK, TAMBON COUNCIL GRANTS, AND CERTAIN CONFIDENTIAL FUNDS EARMARKED FOR SECURITY AGENCIES. NO MAJOR CHANGES HAVE BEEN MADE IN THE BUDGET AS APPROVED ON ITS FIRST READING BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

2. DECISION ON THE CONTROVERSIAL ITEMS AWAIT THE RETURN OF FINANCE MINISTER BUNCHU ROTCHANASATHIAN ON SEPTEMBER 7 FROM HIS TRIP TO EUROPE AND THE US. BUNCHU WILL CALL ALL THE SIGNALS ON CHANGES THAT THE GOVERNMENT WILL ACCEPT TO ITS ORIGINAL PROPOSALS.

3. A SOURCE AT THE BUDGET BUREAU CONFIDES THAT BUNCHU WILL NOT ACCEPT ANY CHANGES THAT WOULD SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECT GOVERNMENT POLICIES. HE ALSO SAID THAT HE STILL EXPECTS THAT THE COMMITTEE WILL BE ABLE TO REPORT THE APPROVED BUDGET BACK TO THE NATIONAL

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ASSEMBLY FOR THE SECOND READING ON SEPTEMBER 20. NO COMPLICATIONS

ARE EXPECTED AND THE BUDGET SHOULD EASILY SECURE FINAL ACCEPTANCE.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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06 JUL 2006

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TAGS: ECON, ABUD, TH, (BUNCHU)
To: STATE
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